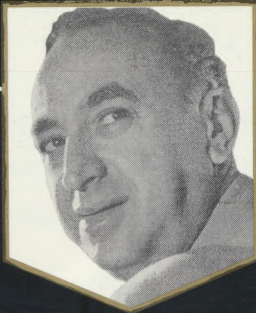


THE CHRONOLOGICAL



MEZZ MEZZROW
1944 - 1945

WITH SIDNEY BECHET, HOT LIPS PAGE, ART HODES,
SAM PRICE, POPS FOSTER, DANNY BARKER,
SID CATLETT, KAISER MARSHALL...

CLASSICS

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MEZZ MEZZROW

1944 - 1945

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- | | | | | | | | | | |
|----|------------------------------|-----------|----------|------|----|----------------------------------|-----------|----------|------|
| 1 | Really The Blues | (F-160) | 03-15-44 | 3:04 | 14 | Minor Swoon | (KJ-21-1) | 07-31-45 | 3:00 |
| 2 | Milk For Mezz | (F-161) | 03-15-44 | 2:35 | 15 | The Sheik Of Araby | (KJ-22-1) | 07-31-45 | 2:53 |
| 3 | Feather's Lament | (F-162) | 03-15-44 | 3:25 | 16 | Baby, I'm Cuttin' Out | (KJ-24-1) | 08-29-45 | 2:39 |
| 4 | Mezzin' Around | (F-163) | 03-15-44 | 2:52 | 17 | Ole Miss | (KJ-25-2) | 08-29-45 | 2:59 |
| 5 | House Party | (KJ-12-1) | 07-30-45 | 2:39 | 18 | Bowlin' The Blues | (KJ-26-2) | 08-29-45 | 2:45 |
| 6 | Perldido Street Stomp | (KJ-13-1) | 07-30-45 | 2:19 | 19 | Jelly Roll | (KJ-27-2) | 08-29-45 | 3:29 |
| 7 | Revolutionary Blues - Part 1 | (KJ-14-1) | 07-30-45 | 3:10 | 20 | Perldido Street Stomp | (KJ-28-2) | 08-29-45 | 2:53 |
| 8 | Revolutionary Blues - Part 2 | (KJ-15-1) | 07-30-45 | 2:31 | 21 | Old School (Revolutionary Blues) | | | |
| 9 | Blood On The Moon | (KJ-16-1) | 07-30-45 | 2:24 | | | (KJ-29-3) | 08-30-45 | 2:37 |
| 10 | Levee Blues | (KJ-17-1) | 07-31-45 | 2:54 | 22 | Gone Away Blues | (KJ-30-1) | 08-30-45 | 2:39 |
| 11 | Layin' My Rules In Blues | (KJ-18-1) | 07-31-45 | 2:32 | 23 | De Luxe Stomp | (KJ-31-1) | 08-30-45 | 2:28 |
| 12 | Bad Bad Baby Blues | (KJ-19-1) | 07-31-45 | 2:51 | 24 | Out Of The Gallion | (KJ-32-3) | 08-30-45 | 2:29 |
| 13 | Saw Mill Man Blues | (KJ-20-1) | 07-31-45 | 3:01 | | | | | |

1, 2 MEZZ MEZZROW TRIO. 3, 4 ART HODES TRIO. 5 TO 15 MEZZROW-BECHET SEPTET.
 16 TO 24 MEZZROW-BECHET QUINTET.

ALSO AVAILABLE BY MEZZ MEZZROW : CLASSICS 713 (1928-36) & CLASSICS 694 (1936-39).

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CLASSICS 1074
 MEZZ MEZZROW
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MEZZ MEZZROW

1944 - 1945

1	REALLY THE BLUES (Mezzrow) (F-160)	03-15-44	3:04
2	MILK FOR MEZZ (Mezzrow) (F-161)	03-15-44	2:35
3	FEATHER'S LAMENT (Hodes) (F-162)	03-15-44	3:25
4	MEZZIN' AROUND (Hodes) (F-163)	03-15-44	2:52
5	HOUSE PARTY (Mezzrow-Bechet) (KJ-12-1)	07-30-45	2:39
6	PERDIDO STREET STOMP (Bechet-Mezzrow) (KJ-13-1)	07-30-45	2:19
7	REVOLUTIONARY BLUES - PART 1 (Mezzrow-Bechet) (KJ-14-1)	07-30-45	3:10
8	REVOLUTIONARY BLUES - PART 2 (Mezzrow-Bechet) (KJ-15-1)	07-30-45	2:31
9	BLOOD ON THE MOON (Page) (KJ-16-1)	07-30-45	2:24
10	LEVEE BLUES (Wilson-Price) (KJ-17-1)	07-31-45	2:54
11	LAYIN' MY RULES IN BLUES (Mezzrow) (KJ-18-1)	07-31-45	2:32
12	BAD BAD BABY BLUES (Mezzrow) (KJ-19-1)	07-31-45	2:51
13	SAW MILL MAN BLUES (Wilson-Price) (KJ-20-1)	07-31-45	3:01

14	MINOR SWOON (Mezzrow) (KJ-21-1)	07-31-45	3:00
15	THE SHEIK OF ARABY (Smith-Wheeler-Snyder) (KJ-22-1)	07-31-45	2:53
16	BABY, I'M CUTTIN' OUT (Mezzrow-Daniels) (KJ-24-1)	08-29-45	2:39
17	OLE MISS (Handy) (KJ-25-2)	08-29-45	2:59
18	BOWIN' THE BLUES (Mezzrow-Bechet) (KJ-26-2)	08-29-45	2:45
19	JELLY ROLL (Mezzrow) (KJ-27-2)	08-29-45	3:29
20	PERDIDO STREET STOMP (Bechet-Mezzrow) (KJ-28-2)	08-29-45	2:53
21	OLD SCHOOL (REVOLUTIONARY BLUES) (Bechet-Mezzrow) (KJ-29-3)	08-30-45	2:37
22	GONE AWAY BLUES (Mezzrow) (KJ-30-1)	08-30-45	2:39
23	DE LUXE STOMP (Mezzrow-Bechet) (KJ-31-1)	08-30-45	2:28
24	OUT OF THE GALLION (Mezzrow-Bechet) (KJ-32-3)	08-30-45	2:29

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CLASSICS 1074

MEZZ MEZZROW 1944 - 1945

In 1945, during a residency at "Jimmy Ryan's" in New York, Mezz Mezzrow was approached by John van Beuren. The young admirer of the clarinetist brought up the idea of founding a record company that would produce the kind of music Mezzrow loved to play but which was not popular with major labels at the time. Thus, Mezzrow became producer and president for the tiny "King Jazz" label that issued a small number of fine records!

Mezz Mezzrow's real name was Milton Mesirov. He was born in Chicago on November 9, 1899. In his teens Mezzrow took up the saxophone and clarinet, and from 1924 he became closely associated with the "Austin High School Gang", a group of young white musicians from Chicago. Mezzrow had already recorded with several local bands by the time he fronted his own group in 1928. After a few months in New York, he visited Europe for the first time in 1929. While leading his own quartet in Paris, he met Hugues Panassié, who became totally influenced by Mezzrow's ideas and concepts. Back in New York, Mezzrow worked with Red Nichols, Jack Levy and several other groups. He organized his own bands for various recording sessions in the mid-thirties, but did not always work as a fulltime musician. His legendary "Disciples Of Swing" premiered at the Harlem Uproar House, and also played at the Savoy. Together with his friend Hugues Panassié, he organized the famous "Swing" sessions in 1938, helping pave the way for the Revival movement of the coming years. In the early forties, Mezzrow spent a spell in prison. He then worked with his own little bands at various New York clubs, often employing pianist Art Hodes. In 1945, Mezzrow founded a small record-company, King Jazz, which released some outstanding 78s in the classic New Orleans tradition. In 1946 with Bernard Wolfe he wrote his autobiography, "Really The Blues", a book spiced with exaggeration, but nevertheless of considerable documentary value. Mezzrow returned to France with his own band in 1948, and after several further European trips, finally settled in Paris. Throughout the fifties and sixties he played and recorded with many local and visiting musicians. Mezz Mezzrow died in Paris on August 5, 1972.

This third volume of the recordings of Mezz Mezzrow presented in chronological order, opens with a session with Art Hodes and Danny Alvin with whom Mezz occasionally worked at the time. All the other tracks on this CD were made for King Jazz. The majority of these performances was not issued on 78s due to a lack of money. Mezzrow recalled: "We began to record like mad: during the first months of 1945, we made over fifty sides. (...) The music we played together, not a note of it on paper, all of it welling up out of our enthusiasm and our warm feeling." Indeed, much of the resulting music is outstanding. The first session is a real gem: Sidney Bechet and Hot Lips Page were on incredible form that day. Aided by a star-studded rhythm team, the impromptu band turned in several masterpieces, including "Blood On The Moon" with a terrific vocal by Lips Page. The next day Cousin Joe, who later made scores of recordings under his own name, was brought in while Douglas Daniels, formerly with the Spirits of Rhythm, is also heard on one track. The instrumentals from both the August 1945 sessions are dominated by Sidney Bechet's majestically soaring soprano. Mezzrow is incited by Sidney: the clarinetist has never played better than on "Bowin' The Blues" or the catchy "De Luxe Stomp"! Those who criticize Mezzrow for his allegedly faulty playing should listen to this great CD over and over again. To be continued...

Anatol Schenker, May 1999.

CLASSICS 1074

MEZZ MEZZROW TRIO (10008)/ART HODES TRIO (10007): "Mezz" Mezzrow-cl/Art Hodes-p/Danny Alvin-d.
New York, March 15, 1944.

F-160	Really The Blues	Session 10008
F-161	Milk For Mezz	Session 10008
F-162	Feather's Lament	Session 10007
F-163	Mezzin' Around	Session 10007

MEZZROW - BECHET SEPTET: Oran "Hot Lips" Page (as "Pappa" Snow White)-t-v/Mezz Mezzrow-cl/Sidney Bechet-ss/Sammy Price-p/Danny Barker-g/George "Pops" Foster-b/Sid Catlett-d.

New York, July 30, 1945.

KJ-12-1	House Party	King Jazz 143
KJ-13-1	Perdido Street Stomp	Storyville SEP 411 (EP) (Denmark)
KJ-14-1	Revolutionary Blues - Part 1	Storyville SLP 153 (LP) (Denmark)
KJ-15-1	Revolutionary Blues - Part 2	Storyville SLP 153 (LP) (Denmark)
KJ-16-1	Blood On The Moon - vHLP	King Jazz 143

MEZZROW - BECHET SEPTET: Pleasant Joe-v added.

New York, July 31, 1945.

KJ-17-1	Levee Blues - vPJ	King Jazz 144
KJ-18-1	Layin' My Rules In Blues - vPJ	Storyville SLP 153 (LP) (Denmark)
KJ-19-1	Bad Bad Baby Blues - vPJ	Storyville SLP 141 (LP) (Denmark)
KJ-20-1	Saw Mill Man Blues - vPJ	King Jazz 144
KJ-21-1	Minor Swoon	Storyville 820/21 (LP) (Denmark)
KJ-22-1	The Sheik Of Araby	Storyville SEP 408 (EP) (Denmark)

MEZZROW - BECHET QUINTET: Mezz Mezzrow-cl/Sidney Bechet-ss/Fitz Weston-p/Pops Foster-b/Kaiser Marshall-d/Douglas Daniels-v.

New York, August 29, 1945.

KJ-24-1	Baby, Im' Cuttin' Out - vDD	Storyville SEP 394 (EP) (Denmark)
KJ-25-2	Ole Miss	King Jazz 142
KJ-26-2	Bowin' The Blues	King Jazz 141
KJ-27-2	Jelly Roll	Royal Jazz 709 (France)
KJ-28-2	Perdido Street Stomp	Royal Jazz 704 (France)

MEZZROW - BECHET QUINTET: same.

New York, August 30, 1945.

KJ-29-3	Old School	King Jazz 141
KJ-30-1	Gone Away Blues	King Jazz 140
KJ-31-1	De Luxe Stomp	King Jazz 140
KJ-32-3	Out Of The Gallion	King Jazz 142



MEZZ MEZZROW

1944-1945

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